(d) Government have recently increased sectoral cap for FDI in (i) Telecom sector from 49% to 74%, (ii) Civil Aviation sector from 40% to 49% and (iii) Township, housing, built-up infrastructrueahd construction development projects up to 100%.

Task Force on revision of procurement norms

4213. SHRI SUDARSHAN AKARAPU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Task Force on revision of procurement norms to ensure greater transparency, competition, fairness, and elimination of discretion in procurement of goods by Government has submitted its Report:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have accepted the recommendations of the Task Force; and

(d) If so, the time-frame by which the recommendations would come into effect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Task Force in its recommendations has suggested ways an means for bringing in greater efficiency, economy, accountability and transparency in public procurement system.

Based on the recommendations of the Task Force, three separate Working Groups have been set up by the Government for preparation of standard documents for 'Goods', 'Works' and 'Consultancy'.

Outstanding debt of Tamil Nadu

4214. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of debt arrears outstanding against the State Government
of Tamil Nadu as on date;

(b) whether the State Government of Tamil Nadu has made any representation in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the quantum of annual interest being, paid by the State Government on these arrears?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM). (a) There are no arrears of GoI loans, given from Ministry of Finance, against Government of Tamil Nadu;

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Disinvestment of PSUs

†4215. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises disinvested during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the names of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises, for which the disinvestment proposal is under consideration;

(c) whether any such proposal is under Government's consideration to reconsider those Industries and Public Enterprises which have been disinvested during the last three years and to bring them again under Government's control; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The names of Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) disinvestment during the last three years are given in the statement (See below).

(b) In keeping with the National Common Minimum Programme guidelines, in the case of 13 profitable PSEs, *viz.* Manganese Ore India Limited, Sponge Iron India Limited, Shipping Corporation of India Limited, National Aluminium Company Limited, National Building Construction Corporation Limited, National Fertilizers Limited, Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, Engineers India Limited, Balmer Lawrie and Company Limited, Engineering Projects India Limited, Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited and State Trading Corporation of India Limited, it has been decided to formally call off the process of disinvestment through Strategic Sale, .approved earlier. No decisions have been taken so far for disinvestment in any other specific Public Sector Enterprise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to part (c) above.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.